

THE COMMUNICATOR

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Dedicated to Informative Excellence

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BCC Oxfam Hunger Banquet (Sponsored by Student Government Association)

By Fuseina Gimballa

The SGA Oxfam Hunger Banquet is the first banquet of its kind to be held at Bronx Community College. The Oxfam Hunger Banquet is one of many actions taken by the Oxfam America Organization in helping combat hunger and injustice. Oxfam America is an international relief and development organization working in more than 90 countries worldwide. In 1974, Oxfam America launched its first grassroots anti-hunger campaign. Among those who joined the effort were high school and university students, whose dedication and optimism attracted others to the cause. This year, the BCC campus joined that initiative.

The Oxfam Hunger Banquet was held to educate and inspire critical thought and dialogue regarding poverty, hunger and injustice. The event was organized in a way where three groups existed- high-income group, middle-income group and low-income group. These three groups had different sittings, and arrangements. High-income members sat by a round decorated table; middle-income by a long undecorated table and low-income sat on individual chairs without decorations. Tickets were designated at the entrance, and these tickets decided where one sat. The tickets also came with high number in low-income tickets, moderate number in middle-income tickets and small number in high-income tickets. As students, faculty or staff walked in, each drew a ticket by random, on which names were attached to. These arrangements were to give people an idea of the disparities in the global community. For instance, people in the high-income group are very few in number globally, but yet have the most opportunities.

The event began with an introduction and a welcome greeting. The speaker, Ms. Winnifred Lee, a volunteer from Oxfam America, gave a view in detail of what the Oxfam America Organization does. An interactive session followed, which was conducted by Ms. Fuseina Gimballa, senator of the Student Government Organization. The three groups were introduced, and given a view of how their impact to the global economy. Two people were called from the middle-income group, whose unfortunate story were given and made to move to the low-income group. Later six people were called to stand from the low-income group, with two being seamstresses, who earned enough that year. These six people with their

increase in income joined the middle-income group. Four more people were also called from the middle-income group. With their unfortunate stories shared, they asked to join the low-income group. From the high-income group, two women were asked to stand and their stories were told of how wealthy and luxurious they were. As they stood, three more people were asked to stand from the low-income group, who were to receive only half a portion of the meal to be served that day. As these volunteers were asked to sit, the two from the high-income

were asked to join the low-income group, which they were hesitant to do. According to Ms Gimballa, "These are just a few snapshots of life as it plays out each day around the globe."

These people who were called to stand represent reality, stories of real people and how they fight everyday to earn a meal a day. These groups were to have their meal according to ranks. The high-income group was to be served first, then the middle-income and low-income, respectively. Before the guests were invited to eat, Mr. Josue Lopez, a correspondent from NYPIRG gave a speech on the event, about the purpose and goal of NYPIRG. Ms. Lee at the end of the event, provided information and contact for which anyone interested in the organization can refer to. The event was closed with SGA giveaways and the quotation:

"Massive poverty and obscene inequality ... rank alongside slavery and apartheid as social evils. In this new century, millions of people ... remain imprisoned, enslaved, and in chains. They are trapped in the prison of poverty. It is time to set them free." "Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is manmade and it can be overcome ... [O]vercoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. We thank you for coming here today. Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great



generation. Let your greatness blossom. Of course the task will not be easy. But not to do this would be a crime against humanity, against which I ask all humanity now to rise up."- Nelson Mandela

Everyone who showed up made the event a success, as did Student Life, NYPIRG, Muslim Student Association and the Student Government Association. The question to ask oneself is "What will you do?" Let us stand together to make a change!!

The Oxfam America Organization is hoping to get more students involved. One way is by forming an Oxfam club on campus to work on campaigns and event ideas such as the Hunger Banquet and

Oxfam benefit concerts

Photo and art exhibits

Letter-writing parties

A masquerade ball fundraiser

Dining hall fasts, where students skip a meal a s a group and donate the money saved to Oxfam

Panel discussion featuring guest speakers and experts from around the world

Film screenings

For more information, you can contact Ms. Fuseina Gimballa at FUSEINA.GIMBALLA@STU.BCC.CUNY.EDU, fuseinagimballa@aol.com or oxfamamerica.org/actfast. You can also like them on facebook.com/oxfamamerica.

Success Is Never-Ending! My BEYA Experience

By Alex Luma

On Thursday, February 17, 2012, at 6 a.m., I departed for the Black Engineer of the Year Awards at the Marriot Hotel & Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, along with a bus full of forty eager students majoring in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, among other fields. We were accompanied by Barbara Martin, Director of COPE; Eldiane Elmeus, Counselor; Jennifer Lopez, Coordinator; and Clifford Marshall, Veterans Affairs.

The first stop was at Delaware University, which was a very impressive campus with very astute students and beautiful surroundings. Based on their intellectual curiosities, students were broken down into groups of biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, and so forth. All of the departments had a lot to offer in terms of academic pursuit. One of the most impressive departments was the Computer Science Department. One thing that was impressive about it was the new model for a computer infrastructure hard drive system. It was like nothing I had ever seen before.

The tour of the campus was very educational and interesting. We, the students, loved the feedback we were getting. Upon arriving at the Hampton Inn hotel, I waited in anticipation to finally put down the heavy luggage I had brought with me. Once I received my key, I adjourned to my hotel room. Overall, during the stay, we attended several symposiums exploring such topics as research, career success, scholarships and professional personal development. I was selected for an honorable mention award for "Community in STEM." It was a climactic and nervous experience but overall it was great and educational. It helped to have a wonderful person by my side, Stefany Turbi, which made the trip even better. She not only increased the value of the trip for me but

also pushed me to seize more opportunities and look at different climax points to further me in my reach for the stars and I am very appreciative of that as well as of her. She was my rock. With her, networking and connections took place, knowledge was learned, and the future was paved. Throughout the event, I was introduced to representatives Norfolk University, ACS Careers, IBM, Northrop Gunman, Cisco, and many more.

In order to get what you want in life, you have to fight for it. I wasn't the only one to be honored for excellence and determination. There was another successful student, Anthony Canelo, who was selected for the "Academics in STEM" Award. All of the students were proud of the achievements. It is a tremendous honor to be the first Community College students to receive honorable mention at such a prestigious event, where Bronx Community College is the only college in attendance.

The wisdom was accepted. The food was great! The people were motivating. Events that had a lasting impression on me included the BEYA Gala, Career Fair, Scholarship Awards Gala and the HBCU Engineering Deans' Power Breakfast. My favorite Fortune 500 companies attending the Career Fair were IBM, Cisco, and Northrop Gunman. I remember that the Scholarship Awards Gala had me motivated enough to strive even harder to be in the position of those aspiring engineers. The progressive steps are moving closer. The BEYA Gala was the event where everyone, including myself, put on their best outfit and tried to stun everyone while also receiving the impact of what they had to say in that facility. Students listened to stories from the top engineers and awardees that came from similar backgrounds and challenges as our Bronx Community College students. One student stated that this gave him the motivation to work and study harder

to achieve his educational goals. Another student stated "One day, I will be recognized as a top engineer." That is the kind of motivation and mentality that you need to have!

Technology and engineering are a part of me. As a computer programming major and a motivated student interested in anything to do with technology and

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The Communicator Editorial Policy and Disclaimer

The Communicator urges students to submit articles and editorials to the newspaper.

We also encourage students to respond to the articles and editorials found in this newspaper.

The views expressed in by-lined articles and in published letters are solely those of the writer, and they do not necessarily represent the view of *The Communicator*.

We reserve the right to edit any article or letter submitted due to space considerations.

We reserve the right to refuse publication to any article or letter due to space considerations as well as those articles or letters deemed inappropriate because of profane language, non-verification problems, or slander.

No article or letter will be published unless the author submits his or her name, email address, and telephone number.

Please submit all articles and letters to the following email address:
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Notes:

No Word submissions will be accepted that are saved in Word 2007. Please save and submit in an earlier version.

JPEGs must be submitted as email attachments and should not be embedded in the Word copy.

If you are interested in having an article, editorial, letter or announcement included in *The Communicator*, it must be received by the following dates:

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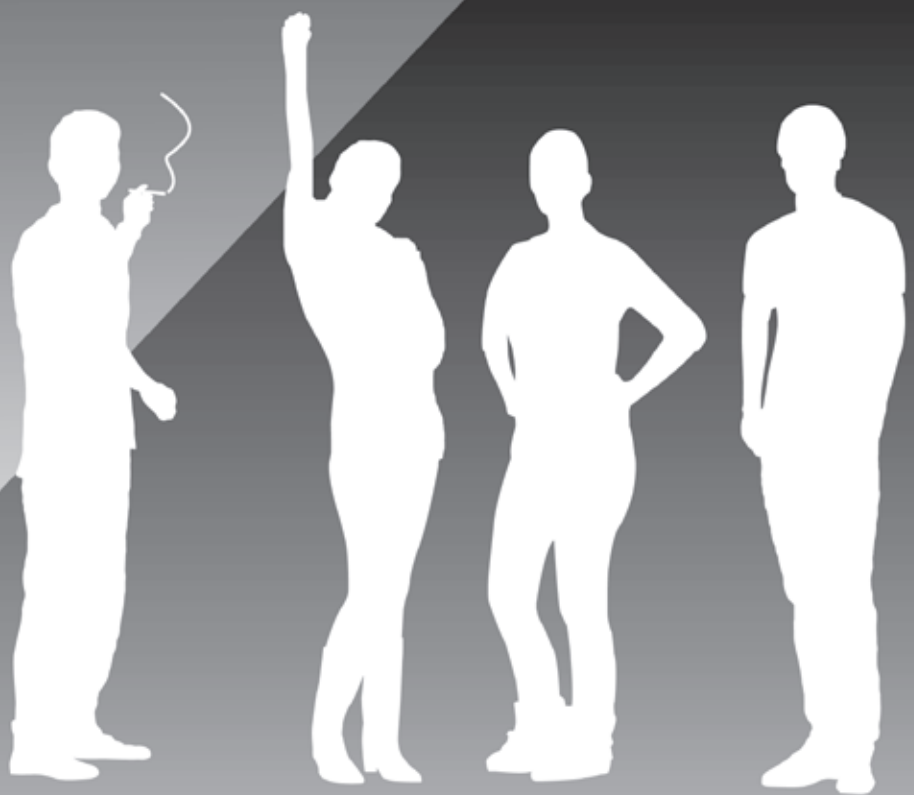
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Campus News

Success Is Never-Ending! My BEYA Experience

Continued from page 1

One of the feedback opinions that I jumped on right away was to take the time to get my research and developments patented, with suggested instruction and guidance by CUNY's Main Research Scientist.

I also have an extremely eminent passion when it comes to writing and music. Before the night was over, I found myself mesmerized by the piano outside the gala. So, I returned back to that wonderful establishment and recorded myself playing, as the music soared through my brain. Filming this was a fellow Bronx Community College BEYA Attendant, Wajih Ansari.

Before heading back to New York, we had breakfast at Golden Corral, an all-you-can-eat buffet. Due to my hunger, I continued sampling every single piece of food they had in the restaurant, to the point where I couldn't eat anymore. This was a very exciting opportunity that I never thought I could have experienced. I thank the coordinators and sponsors that made this event possible. I thank all the participants for taking that next step in their endeavors. They all had a wonderful time and it was a pleasure having them there. I thank Jennifer Lopez and Barbara Martin for setting this marvelous journey of change up. I am grateful for the opportunity to see others excel and to be able to model their excellence until I am able to reach their level of superiority. I will use my mind to revolutionize and create progress in the fabrications of technology. This will not only benefit my mentality and diagnostic perspective but also create change and improvisation in the defense mechanisms and technology automations that the people in this world have grown accustomed to and will grow accustomed to.

It is my destiny to excel. It is my destiny to metaphorically touch the stars. My destiny will be achieved. I will be a BETTER EVERYTHING (whether it's computer science, writing, engineering, music, etc...) When I reach the stars, my feet will not stumble off the platform, my feet will not stumble out of God's plan, my parents will be as proud as possible, the world will be a vastly improved place, and Stefany will be right my side, as I will be to hers. That is my destiny and I will continue to strive and work harder each day to fully deserve these heavenly blessings from God.



VOTE for ANTHONY CANELO Bronx Community College Student Government Association SENATOR!!!!



Who am I? Anthony Canelo: Full-Time Student, Vice-President of the Math and Computer Science Club.

I'm interested in becoming a Student Government Association Senator because I want to be involved in all aspects of the campus and student life. My passion of being a member of this Student Government Association is to raise the percentage graduation level. This is a great opportunity to give all freshmen students an overview of what to expect and what to do in order to graduate within two years for an undergraduate degree. I believe that I would be a valued member of the Student Government Association because I'm a

responsible student, who has the best interest of not only for the school but the students at heart as well. I plan to represent the student body at Bronx Community College as an association that carries the voices... and thoughts of the students on campus and bring about positive change for the students on campus.

I believe I have leadership qualities and I'm also well versed in various fields to be able to grasp the different skills and knowledge, which are useful in facing challenges to achieve a common goal. I learned these qualities during my time as a senior boys' representative for my high school in 2007. I am also bilingual, which is an asset so that I can relate to both English and Spanish students. My traits are honesty, responsibility, being knowledgeable, innovative and competitive. I'm the first community college student to receive honorable mention in academic achievement at the Black Engineer of the Year awards (BEYA) and one of the first two to receive it all.

Student leaders, given the serious responsibility of being the voice of their community, must hone their leadership qualities in order to bring about positive changes, and serve as a role model, whom other students can emulate in order to become charismatic individuals. Among the positive traits of a charismatic person are honesty, responsibility, knowledgeable, innovative and competitive and as students leaders, their role in helping their college community to attain these qualities can help realize the college vision of becoming a quality college in the international level with its own national identity. I have high hopes that this year's student representatives can, not only bring forward issues and problems of their fellow peers, but also be capable of articulating constructive alternative solutions of what needs to be done to handle these issues and conflicts.

Bronx Community College students, we need LEADERS! Some are born, some are made. A good leader is the one who is influential enough to get others to follow him willingly. We have a vision; we have a dream and the passion to pursue it. We have analytical skills, a decision-making ability and a go-getter attitude. We dream big and have the grit to bring it into reality. We possess virtues like integrity, dedication, fairness and an open mind to greet new ideas and innovate. Effective leaders are those who have the ability to listen, think, foresee, understand and act. True leaders are those who dare to dream and live to lead. Leadership requires commitment and that's why I am here for.

Therefore, let's vote for Anthony Canelo, Bronx Community College Students Government Association Senator.

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Campus News



Dear Editor,
I hope everyone's semester is going great! NYPIRG, the New York Public Interest Research Group, is hard at work for you on all of our local and statewide campaigns. NYPIRG is a student-directed advocacy organization that fights for voter's rights, affordable and accessible higher education, consumer and environmental protection,

and mass transit reform. In the past month, we went up to Albany to tell our lawmakers directly that we don't want anymore cuts to education, we had a huge Hunger Banquet to raise awareness about poverty, and spent hours talking to students one-on-one about how they can promote green energy.

Students looking to get involved in this last month on campus should check out our Student Empowerment Workshop titled "Don't Inflate my Debt!" all about the dangers of student loans. That will be Thursday April 19th at 1pm in Loew Hall 301. This event is worth an OCD workshop credit!

Be on the look out for all the great events going on April 24th and 26th during BCC's Earth Day Festival. NYPIRG will be showing *Gasland*, the great documentary about poisonous hydrofracking natural gas drilling. There will be an organizational expo, panels, movies, and tons of free stuff and OCD credit so be sure to check it out.

To get activated and join NYPIRG stop by our weekly meetings every Thursday at 12pm in Meister 226. You can also drop by my office anytime in Meister 214. Thanks!

Sincerely,
Brett Vetterlein
BCC NYPIRG
718-289-5409
Bronx@nypirg.org

BCC Nursing Demystified

By John Luu, Member, BCC Nursing Club

It's day one of clinicals in the BCC nursing program. We are instructed to meet at eight in the morning in the lobby of our clinical site. I get there slightly early, just like everyone else. All of us are nervous. We make small talk as we present to our professor the neat pile of documents that we're required to collect before we are allowed access to the patient care area: Malpractice insurance, Basic Cardiac Life Support card, immunizations, a transcript of our grades, etc.--if you do not have the correct documents you will be sent home. Our professor reviews our documents quickly, and then reviews the student handbook which tells us the dos and don'ts as students in the nursing program. We get a basic description of how our clinical days will progress. After about an hour, we are oriented to the clinical site: Here is where you put dirty linens, there is where you get alcohol swabs, and so on.

Hello. My name is John, and I'm in my second semester of the nursing program at BCC. For anyone who is considering taking up the nursing program at BCC, but feels like they're 'on the fence' about it because they've heard some horror stories, please let me dispel some of the myths.

1) *"The professors are mean."*

If there were ever any truth to this, it's not the case anymore. The professors that I've interacted with are actually quite friendly. They won't hand out extra credit assignments to help people pass - that's not the kind of "nice" that we get. What we do get is a mentor at the beginning of the program that we can always turn to. Every week, there are professors willing to stay after hours to provide tutoring (on their own time). Overall, there's so much altruistic support, it's actually kinda humbling.

2) *"You need to have a ton of time to study."*

People who have a full-time job and children to care for will probably not have the time required to get the A's they're used to getting in their pre-nursing college careers. The program is still very doable, but a student's grades in the program will often reflect the amount of time spent in the practice lab, honing clinical skills, time spent studying on your own and also reviewing the material repeatedly with peers. That being said, some particularly brilliant minds can handle it all in stride, but really, they're just better than the rest of us, and its okay to hate them. Just kidding.

3) *"The tests are unfair"*

The tests can be frustrating. For me, much of the material for NUR 41- a course in Therapeutic Communication- felt rather dry, but I understood that there really wasn't a whole lot that the professor could do about that. The questions do take getting used to. Eventually, I started being able to evaluate my own reasoning, and the test questions were no longer so opaque. There is no secret studying method to passing, but there's a plethora of strategies that the nursing club would love to share. Just keep your eyes peeled for their meeting time notices and pay them a visit.

4) *"Nursing is for girls."*

Guys, listen. Although a majority of the students are women, the few men that do come in are made to feel very welcome. I have yet to encounter a patient in clinical that doesn't want me to care for them because of my gender.

The last day of clinicals: I have to do my last pass/fail skill check. These are skills that we need to prove that we are able to do, and we get two tries. These may include putting on sterile gloves, taking a patient's pulse, etc. My last task was to perform a blood pressure check. Luckily, I found a man with very long arms and a strong pulse. After I got the skill check done, and successfully, too, I was finished with the clinical aspect of my first semester of nursing. I hurriedly exited the building, anxious to get home and hit the books to continue preparing for finals. I passed my finals, too.



This year an amazing 858 transfer students finished college at Monroe. Maybe it's time you made the move.

Maybe it's all the exciting in-demand degrees. Or the professors who actually work in their fields. Perhaps it's the fully-furnished dorms equipped with WiFi, a computer lounge and fitness center. Or the classes that meet around your schedule. Whatever the reason, hundreds of motivated, career-minded students are taking their credits and turning them into marketable Associate or Bachelor's Degrees at Monroe College. Transferring to Monroe means:

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Campus News

Eating Healthy at BCC, An Impossible Mission?

By Charlotte Witherspoon

I suppose you could call me a hippie. I am a granola-eating, salad-making, water-bottle-toting, BPA-free, all-organic all-the-time sort of person. When I first came to BCC, I was really concerned. Culinart was still our vendor and the only salad option looked as if it was on its way out. Au Bon Pain has managed to ease the pain, but there is still a great void. The cafeteria's hefty price tags have left many students turning to the truck parked on University Avenue or raiding the vending machines. Is there a way to find a healthy meal at BCC?

There are vending machines littered across BCC, and only one of them is actually billed as a 'healthy.' On the few occasions I've visited it, I have been greeted by brown apples, Lunchables, and candy. While the common vending machines do carry water and the occasional Diet Coke, healthy options are far outnumbered by sugary, high-calorie alternatives. Even the average bottle fruit juice has an enormous amount of calories and sugar. One 15.2 ounce bottle of Minute Maid apple juice has approximately 50 grams of sugar and 220 calories, comparable to a 16 oz. bottle of Coca-Cola.

How does a health-conscious student stay fed at BCC? Au Bon Pain does prove to be a helpful resource, but even their menu is filled with items that are anything but light. For instance, one medium container of Au Bon Pain's macaroni and cheese has 560 calories, and more than half of the USDA's recommended daily allowance of sodium. Add a bottle of Pepsi (250 calories) and a 2 oz. bag of Cape Cod potato chips (280 calories) to that meal, and the average person will have consumed more than half of their daily allowance of calories in one sitting. Though Au Bon Pain's salads are for the most part in the 200-400 calorie range, their salad dressings can tip the scales and turn a simple salad into one that could have as many calories as a serving of macaroni and cheese.

While the future looks dismal, there is a bit of hope. BCC's blackbox water bottle stations are unique within CUNY and should encourage more students to bring their own water bottles and fill up. The cafeteria is still not fully operating, so perhaps we'll see some improvement after they've reclaimed their space. However, it might prove difficult to dodge the free pizza and Jimbo's delivery in favor of home-packed salads, but it can be done. Until BCC becomes a healthier campus, students will have to try to individually make a commitment to a better lifestyle. No matter what changes are made by BCC, the responsibility lies squarely with the student body. So what will you choose: a 20oz Coca-Cola or bringing your own water bottle to school? Au Bon Pain macaroni and cheese, or a healthy lunch you're packed yourself? These choices do not only save calories, but money, and will ultimately encourage those who stock the vending machines and make the menus to have more nutritious choices available.



What do *A*THEISTS, *A*GNOSTICS and *H*UMANISTS Believe?

A dialogue with the Secular Humanist Club



Bring your questions and curiosity and join us for an open and honest conversation about what we do and don't believe. (We're friendly, we promise.)



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Campus News

Writing a Good Transfer Essay

By Alex Luma

According to William Wordsworth, you should “fill your paper with the breathings of your heart.” When I say heart, I am referring to the heart of your mind, not just your beating heart. The most significant factor of a transfer essay is why you intend to transfer to the selected school of your choice. Everyone has different choices and majors, so take time to consider the field you want to dive into.

When you start putting your pen to paper to begin your first draft, remember to be as mature, honest, and specific as possible. It is important to show that you’ve gained some knowledge and insight from your past experience. In an admission essay, you should describe yourself and state your reasons for wanting to attend the college, as well as the reason the school is a match for your aspirations and dreams. Start with an alluring introduction, but try to avoid making it sound like the opening paragraph of a research paper. Clearly state why your school of choice can give you what you want. Explain why you think that their education is distinct from that of any other school.

Stay clear of generic reasoning like, “I want to go to Harvard because I like the area and it is an Ivy League school.” Do not be common or typical, because you want to stand out from the hundreds of essays they read on a daily basis.

Essays usually have the same template unless a topic is given. You are encouraged to tell your story. What personal experiences led you to the field you are pursuing?

Past
Present – What made you decide to apply for that college?
Future – What do you plan to do with the education you receive?
Bonus – Mention any faculty members you would like to classify as mentors.

Admission representatives have tons of applications and essays to review. Even though there is a maximum word limit, do not be too wordy. Always have your essay reviewed by a faculty member and Chantelle Wright, our Transfer Specialist.

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Loew Hall Room 330

Fluoridated Water: Friend or Foe?

By Kwesi Jawahir

Most people have heard the adage: “You are what you eat.” I completely agree, yet I also say, “You are what you drink.” Water is essential to us all, from plants to animals. Just as roughly 75% of our body is made of water, so too is the earth made up of 75% water. We drink or require water every day, yet some of us are unaware of the lack of water in various places around the world and we are also unaware of what is in our water and its effects.

Here are some facts about fluoride: Around 1945, fluoride was first added to American water. Since then, people have been led to believe that fluoride is fully beneficial to you, without researching where the fluoride in our water comes from or other possible side effects. The fluoride added to our water is actually an industrial byproduct of aluminum and fertilizer industries and has numerous side effects along with other uses than water fluoridation.

Excess amounts of fluoride can cause dental fluorosis or skeletal fluorosis; a decaying/ breaking down of teeth and bones respectively. Fluoride calcifies the pineal gland and may increase the probability of bone cancer along with causing kidney damage for people with weak kidneys. These are just a few things I found out by doing research. Sure, some people may tell you fluoride’s okay and it’s naturally occurring (it is; but the fluoride put in our water and other supplies does not come from there), but you need to question them. Research every possible avenue for information. Don’t accept anything at face value.

Also, approximately 97% of Western Europe has chosen to have fluoride-free water, and there are other countries that are actually removing the fluoride from their water. Don’t believe me? Then do some research, because this article just touched on a few things. If possible, check the Fluoride Action Network (50 reasons to oppose fluoride).

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Single Stop

Single Stop provides Bronx Community College students and their immediate families with access to benefits and services that help students stay in school and graduate. Whether it is afterschool programs, health insurance, legal advice, debt solutions, childcare, or government benefits, we can help to identify the services that are available to you. Single Stop offers the following:

Free Benefits Screening
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Albu and her time in Budapest
By William Murray

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Of course you can imagine, so easy to fall into
What are they called, the kind miniature and strewed?
The ones close on high, and seemingly passing by?
I see everything is a flow in an elliptical eternal home
Too, certain things bound by cross or by connect-
These clouds will surely disappear, and then I'm next-
For I am a concept of my own spirit ascending dust after death
The clouds will resurrect a massive jettison of rain, a
spate
Something empties, while something else stimulates
And occurs the flourish before it disintegrates
So now the clouds are tufts from firewood
What are they called, the kind dreary and amassed
That emerge to be a hood setting off electrostatic clash?
I see everything is a current
So many ways to conduct in frequency
Like every feeling is vibration
Love and indecency
Think why music is language we can recognize and
express
Think of diffusion and restraint
How Beethoven being deaf trained to a quality of
harmonies
Reverberating his bones, fueling his veins
Or the songs of slaves
Charged with life - the soul finds a way
Because freedom might have a ring to it but caging is the
blues
Oh the clouds are brush strokes coming in so many
different hues
What do you call them, crimson and ginger?
The kinds like autumn leaves are omen to winter?
Death, the great afterglow of having lived
You can't count how a day must feel to quit
And all that weather and sequence
I see everything in rotation
All the features of each season
Natural to be delivered prior to ever leaving
The clouds are overcast, what do you call a sky of endless
white?
Is it the yang, could such be contrast, to a black yin at
night?
Like mahogany and ivory keys
Some discord makes out whole symphonies
It's about striking symmetry with sound and motion
And it's about being true to happen next of your first
notion

The clouds are puffs of wool
Of course you can imagine, so easy to fall into
What are they called, the kind miniature and strewed?
The ones close on high, and seemingly passing by?

.....

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Lost Identity
By Kwasi Boateng

It is a part of humanity
A basic need as they put it
‘Identity’
It is the first thing the baby craves
When it says ‘WAAAH’
I am here, hear me out

So that we are not lost, we clinch on lust
We hold tight on greed and pride – a timeless strife
We hold on to what we have so we do not lose our
identity-A pointless fight

But when it’s all gone
When we are confused
We become unstable, the channel of prejudice
We go along to get along
Even when it feels all wrong

The You Revolution
By Kwasi Boateng
Inspired by the Salzburg Global
Seminar International Study
Program 51
7 April – 14 April 2012

If there ever be change it begins with me, with you, with
us.

I will not live among injustice

I will not be silent
I will pay more attention to the news

I will not tolerate gender inequality

I will not let cruelty go unnoticed

I will not take the energy we have for granted

I will not take my time for granted

But I need knowledge for change, through Salzburg I
know I can. What difference will it make if I stand?

I have lived in a broken home

I have suffered from the hardship of my immediate
surrounding

I have been socially, denied but emotionally, spiritually,
and experience rich.

I have dealt with starts and stops, ups and downs in my
educational journey

I have suffered losses and tears in my family

Yet if I stand. You stand. We stand.

We stand above our past. And the world has a hope of
change, just because You stood.



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Outside the Quad

Rage Quit By Alcy Leyva

I am a hardcore gamer, through and through. I flaunt my k/d in “Call of Duty,” try to finish all of my games with 900 gamerscore or more, and I’ve also written online guides for several multiplayer games. So it shouldn’t be much of a reveal to say that at midnight on March 6th I was waiting on line to pick up my collector’s edition copy of “Mass Effect 3.” The final entry in a trilogy, “Mass Effect 3” was supposed to wrap up the story of Commander Shepard and his crew as they try to save not only Earth but the entire universe from being destroyed and assimilated by the Reapers.

Rabid gamers tore through the campaign in hours, and within a day I noticed a small rumbling throughout the Internet regarding the game’s ending. There are six different endings that are the results of choices made throughout the trilogy: your decisions. That is the greatest trait of this game created by the gaming industry juggernaut known as Bioware. The gamer is challenged to make choices that can span anywhere from small moral dilemmas to huge ethical decisions that affect the lives of millions. These games are the modern-day equivalent of “Choose Your Own Adventure” books. The decisions you make echo throughout the game and lean more towards the gray area between good and bad (or as the game calls it, between being a Paragon or a Renegade). The Internet chatter about how unsatisfying all of the endings are started small at first. And then, as is the nature of this viral age we live in, the idea spread and expanded like a huge mushroom cloud. The “Retake Mass Effect” movement had started and I sat back astonished.

In a few short weeks, Bioware was attacked and mocked on every YouTube video and message board that would allow it. The company’s own forums were inundated with demands for the ending to be changed. A small fund erected by the “Retake Mass Effect” movement raised \$80,000 in the name of player outrage and to build a community that wants Bioware to provide a better ending (it should be noted that the money is not going directly to Bioware and is instead being donated to the Child’s Play Charity). In their petition (found on <http://retakemasseffect.chipin.com>), the Retake movement states that the ending “Does not provide the wide range of possible outcomes that we have come to expect from a Mass Effect game” and therefore they “request additional endings be added to the game which provide: a more complete explanation of the story events, an explanation (sic) of the outcome of the decisions made, especially with regard to the planets, races, and companions detailed throughout the series” AND “a heroic ending which provides a better sense of accomplishment.”

I laughed at all of this because it was silly. Just a week removed from the “Kony 2012” video, I saw that some people were taking the motivation of activism and using it to their own benefit. But then came this quote from BioWare co-founder Ray Muzyka, “Our first instinct is to defend our work and point to the high ratings offered by critics - but out of respect to our fans, we need to accept the criticism and feedback with humility.” Following this, he stated, “Executive Producer Casey Hudson and the team

are hard at work on a number of game content initiatives that will help answer the questions, providing more clarity for those seeking further closure to their journey.”

I couldn’t believe it. The fact that a company was acknowledging the voice of a fan base is not an unusual thing, but I was floored by the notion that Bioware was even flirting with the idea of changing their ending.

How is this even possible? I finished the game, choosing one of the six endings, and though I wasn’t exactly enamored by it, I didn’t demand that someone change it. Who am I to change someone’s creative work? Who are any of us to tell a game developer who and what to put in a game? Customers with money? Yes, but the customer is only another word for “consumer.” I felt it a horrible slap in the face to the game’s hundred or so programmers and writers for Bioware to even contemplate the notion. I was upset and wondering why I was even going through the game a second time.

Marked as a “win” on the Reclaim Mass Effect movement, the people who had challenged the system were seeing a change. But who really won? In my opinion, we have all already lost. We have no right to change someone else’s artistic vision. As consumers, we have every right to complain, to boycott and even to refuse to buy a Bioware product again in our lives. But backing this move sets a highly distressful precedent for the future of not only games, but social aesthetics as a whole. The game is functional. The graphics are polished. There are very few bugs and glitches and as of the writing of this article, no consoles or pcs have exploded while playing the game. In other words, the game causes no physical harm to the user or his property but because we disagree with how it affects our intelligence and our “feelings,” we want to change it? Where is the logic?

For example: You go to your favorite restaurant, a family-run business, the same one you’ve been going to for six years. You’ve been ordering the same dish every day, but this day, you tell them to change their recipe or you’ll never eat there again. The cook will probably come out to your table, laugh in your face and tell you to “Go open your own damn restaurant if you want that.” He wouldn’t flip on a dime. He wouldn’t fiddle with his fingers and beg your pardon while he changed the menu. Doing that in New York would guarantee your next meal being served with “special sauce.”

A darker example is necessary: On March 3rd 1988, Congress was actually contemplating changing the images within movies. The debate spawned from a few select filmmakers lobbying to colorize classic black and white films because they found it more aesthetically pleasing. Most of Hollywood was in an uproar. George Lucas (Star Wars, Indiana Jones) appeared before Congress, stating, “The destruction of our film heritage, which is the focus of concern today, is only the tip of the iceberg. American law does not protect our painters, sculptors, recording artists, authors, or filmmakers from having their lifework distorted, and their reputation ruined. If something is not done now to clearly state the moral rights of artists, current and future technologies will alter, mutilate, and destroy

for future generations the subtle human truths and highest human feeling that talented individuals within our society have created.”

I believe Lucas was speaking about the rights of the individual artists here. If you are not the creator of the art- be it painting, song, poem, or book- no matter how close you are to the person who created it, **you are not that person.** (The irony is not lost on me that Lucas sat in front of our government officials to declare that it is wrong to digitally alter classic movies and then he went on to digitally alter his classic movies for the sake of a crisp, new, shiny dollar in his pocket. This doesn’t escape me in the slightest but Lucas is doing this to his *own* work and no one else’s).

If we allow this type of social control over creative work, where does it end? I mean, it sounds somewhat familiar. Someone hiding behind a pc screen is gathering others against you in an effort to undermine who you really are. It sounds a lot like “cyber-bullying” because it is.

And if an outspoken majority of IP numbers really can bring about such a change, why don’t they focus this power into ... oh, I don’t know ... world hunger, the economic crisis, the rights of same-sex couples, the slave trade, child endangerment, global warming, big oil companies, packed prisons, waning education grades, endangered animals, gentrification, Occupy Wall Street, the death penalty, gang violence, drug trafficking, cultural white-washing, deforesting, racial profiling, ballooning weight issues, law enforcement violence, the 5th Amendment, the 2nd Amendment, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Uganda, Haiti’s earthquake, Japan’s earthquake, Mexico’s earthquake, Bronx unemployment, Brooklyn’s tanking math grades, Queens just being Queens and yesterday, tomorrow, today and where we stand and how stand on it (just to name a few).

I’m not sure if anyone’s noticed but there’s a giant-walled construction site in the middle of our campus. Can a few electronic emails wish that eyesore away before demanding that a 20-hour video game change its last three minutes? Where are our priorities? Where is our respect for creative works of art?

I understand that Mr. Muzyka was not implying that the ending is going to be completely dropped, but I’ll be waiting for his announcement in April. It can be that something as minor as a small story may be released in order to explain the conclusion or to build upon it in some way. You can rest assured, though, that the moment I feel Bioware has compromised its integrity by allowing the public domain to restructure a piece of its work and therefore obliterating the security it should have for its creative staff of writers and programmers, I will quickly trade in my “Mass Effect 3” game and I will not be purchasing anything with the Bioware title on it.

And if a select majority of people on campus does not agree with my last paragraph, then I suggest getting together and raising money to get this entire article changed to me fully endorsing your idea instead of mine. It’s the way we’re headed, anyway.

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Campus News

Humanism at BCC

By Christopher Baez

The table in the lobby of Colston Hall contains books, pamphlets, and a bulletin board, and has a banner draped across the front that reads “Bronx Community College Secular Humanist Club.” Sitting at the table are three Club members. One is smiling at a passersby, one is quietly talking with a curious student, and one is engaged in a heated debate about Biblical inconsistencies. Some passing students glance at the scene, notice the banner, and head to class, none the wiser about what the Secular Humanist Club actually is.

Secular humanism is a philosophy concerned with living a life based on reason, ethics, and justice, without reliance on religious or supernatural ideas. The Club was started four years ago by students Katyhara De Los Santos and Carolina Otero in response to negative experiences nontheistic students -- those who lack belief in gods -- were having on campus. They approached Marc Barnhill, an openly atheist and humanist professor in the English Department who was active in the secular movement, to serve as the Club’s faculty advisor. Though most of its currently active members identify as atheists or agnostics, the Club is open to all students who are interested in learning about secular humanism. (In its first semester, nearly half the members were practicing Catholics.)

The SHC claims to represent a much larger segment of the campus population than those who attend its weekly meetings. Professor Barnhill, who was recently named Freethinker of the Year by the Center For Inquiry-NYC, says he has received dozens of email messages and phone calls from BCC students who support the SHC’s mission but who don’t dare participate due to the stigma involved.

“It’s absolutely heartbreaking,” he says. “Many students fear they’ll be ostracized by their friends, family, or community if they come out about their beliefs. Some have even expressed concern for their physical safety.” Club members hope that as more nonbelievers on campus

come out, their openness will encourage others to do the same.

The SHC’s primary mission is to provide a safe space for nontheistic students to be themselves, discuss their beliefs, support one another, share resources, and explore the implications of secular humanist living. The Club also aims to organize educational and social events and to increase the visibility and acceptance of secular humanism on campus.

Though still mysterious or unknown to many BCC students, the SHC has become one of the most prominent and recognized secular student organizations in New York City. The club is officially affiliated with the Secular Student Alliance, Center For Inquiry, Harlem Humanists, New York City Skeptics, African Americans for Humanism, and Black Atheists of America, and has cosponsored and participated in many high-profile events around the city. In November, the SHC cosponsored a presentation on interfaith work with the Harvard Humanist Chaplaincy and the Park 51 Muslim Community Center. In December, the Club participated in SkeptiCamp NYC, where Professor Barnhill presented on “Teaching Critical Thinking in NYC Colleges” and club president Theodore Edwards presented on “Minority Involvement in the Skeptical Community.” The group celebrated the Day of Solidarity for Black Non-Believers with members of various secular organizations on February 26, and attended the historic March 24 Reason Rally in the National Mall in Washington DC (which drew a crowd of over 20,000) as well as the American Atheists National Convention in Bethesda Maryland from March 25-26. The group will also be attending the April 21-22 Northeast Conference on Science and Skepticism (NECSS), at which Professor Barnhill will be a featured panelist.

Here on campus, the SHC recently brought Dr. Massimo Pigliucci, an expert on the philosophy of science, to deliver an entertaining lecture exploring the

treatment of moral philosophy in Batman and Spider Man. On April 25 the Club presented “What Do Atheists, Agnostics and Humanists Believe?: A Dialogue with the Secular Humanist Club,” the aim of which is to provide honest answers to students’ questions and to dispel misconceptions about nontheistic students. And on May 7 at 12pm, Gould Memorial Library Auditorium will be the site of an unprecedented panel discussion on “Freethought in Black History and Culture,” featuring journalist Jamila Bey, AAH Director Debbie Goddard, antiracism activist and professor/author Jeffrey B. Perry, and lawyer and BAA founder Ayanna Watson. The event is already creating considerable media and community buzz.

The SHC’s activities can overlap with other groups and concerns in surprising ways. Science, history, philosophy, and psychology are frequent focal points for discussion and action. “Secular humanism holds that human worth and achievement are fine and noble things in themselves,” Barnhill explained. “As such it’s intimately connected to issues of social justice, including feminism, the anti-racist struggle, and LGBTQ rights.” In addition to taking part in last year’s Religion and Non-religion on Campus discussion and a Diversity and Discrimination panel, the SHC is collaborating with the Psychology Club and the Rainbow Alliance on future events. The Club has also taken a leading role in organizing secular volunteering efforts and service projects, like the Easter weekend cleanup of Prospect Park.

One simplified way of thinking about secular humanism is “being good without God.” Clearly, many BCC students are already doing that, and the Secular Humanist Club gives them an opportunity to do so together and in full view.

Students who are interested in learning more about humanism or the Secular Humanist Club can contact Professor Barnhill at marc.barnhill@bcc.cuny.edu



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Campus News

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THE MULTICULTURAL WEEK

Music and Dances Festival

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MAY 3, 2012
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MARCH

Thursday, 3/1
GLOBAL FILM SERIES: DANGEROUS LIVING: COMING OUT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD (2003) • TU (OCD)
Schwendler Auditorium/12-2 p.m.
A FILM BY JOHN SCAGLIOTTI (60 MINUTES)
Dangerous Living: Coming Out in the Developing World is the first documentary to deeply explore the lives of gay and lesbian people in non-western cultures. Traveling to five different continents, heartbreaking and triumphant stories of gays and lesbians from Egypt, Honduras, Kenya, Thailand and elsewhere are told. These personal stories of coming out in developing nations shed light on an emerging global movement striving to end discrimination and violence against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people.
Moderated by Dr. Robert Maryks and guest faculty. The series is coordinated by Dr. Robert Maryks, Department of History.

Friday, 3/2
GLOBAL HEALTH IN THE BCC CLASSROOM • GH
Center for Teaching Excellence, Philosophy Hall, Lower Level/12-1 p.m.
Join HPEW faculty members Sue Moss and Mary Lou McNichol for a brown bag luncheon forum as they discuss how their own recent study abroad experiences have been integrated into their classroom work with students. The emphasis will be on the World Health Organization's global strategy for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and on the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that aim to reduce maternal and infant death rates, as well as combat AIDS, malaria, and other neglected tropical diseases.
Coordinated by Dr. Sue Moss and Professor Mary Lou McNichol, Department of Health, Physical Education & Wellness.

Tuesday, 3/6
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: VOICES OF WOMEN • GW (OCD)
Colston Hall, Lower Level/12-2 p.m.
Roscoe Brown Student Center Playhouse/12-2 p.m.
The College's observance of Women's History Month begins with a celebration of the creative voices of women as well as the unveiling of the nominees for the 2012 Women's Virtual Hall of Fame. *Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai*, a documentary in honor of the 2007 WVHF inductee will be shown. There will also be a tribute to the women awarded jointly of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize – Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Inducted into the WVHF in 2009), Leymah Gbowee and Tawakkol Karman "for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work." The nine nominees for election to the 2011 WVHF in the following categories – Women from the Past, American Women from the Present, and International Women from the Present – will be introduced and voting will begin.
Coordinated by Professor Sarah Brady, Department of Communications; Dr. Kate Calkin, Department of History; Professor Janet Robertson, Department of English and the Writing Center; Professor Gloria Rodriguez, Department of Social Sciences; Dr. Tamar Rubenberg, Department of History; Dr. Maria Lazda, Department of History; Ms. Theresa Hammonds, Office of Career & Transfer; Ms. Chantelle Wright, Department of Student Development; Ms. Barbara Schaefer-Peleg, National Center for Educational Alliances; Professor Andrew Rowan, National Center for Educational Alliances and Department of English; and Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life.

Wednesday, 3/7 - 3/29
EXPLORING COMMON GROUND: ANCIENT TRADITIONS, MODERN INTERPRETATIONS (EXHIBIT) • GW, IC
Hall of Fame Gallery, Bliss Hall
Monday-Friday, 10am-12pm, or by appointment
This unique exhibit features women ceramic artists interpreting the past through their own modern-day experiences. Judith Leir shows the traditional Japanese esthetic of Wabi Sabi, Mara Gross highlights the primitive representations of human experiences, and Lisa Feldman's focus is religious symbology.
Coordinated by Professor Mary Jo Ben-Nun, Department of Art & Music Hall of Fame Gallery. Bliss Hall Exhibit times: Monday-Friday, 10am-12pm, or by appointment

Wednesday, 3/14
OPENING RECEPTION • GW, IC
Hall of Fame Gallery, Bliss Hall/12-2 p.m.
EXPLORING COMMON GROUND: ANCIENT TRADITIONS, MODERN INTERPRETATIONS

Monday, 3/12
CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROGRAM • GA (OCD)
The Children's Center/10-11 a.m.
BCC's Early Childhood Center and the Office of Student Life provide a forum for children in the Center to learn about world culture and for many of them to receive books to read at home with their BCC student parents. Titles with global themes in children's literature will be chosen each month for this unique program.
Coordinated by Ms. Jitinder Walia, Child Care Center, and Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life

Tuesday, 3/13
FILM: MISS REPRESENTATION • GW (OCD)
Roscoe Brown Student Center Playhouse, 12-2 p.m.
A FILM BY DANIEL G. KARSLAKE (101 MINUTES)
The documentary *Miss Representation* premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival and aired on OWN; the Oprah Winfrey Network in October. It explores how the media's misrepresentations of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence.
Coordinated by Ms. Nirvana Burns, BCC Alumna, and Dr. Kate Calkin, Department of History, Professor Gloria Rodriguez, Department of Social Science and the Office of Student Life

Thursday, 3/15
SGA "GO GREEN" WORKSHOP • SE (OCD)
Roscoe C. Brown Student Center, Room 310/2-4 p.m.
BCC's Student Government Association educates the student body about how to practice sustainability on campus and in everyday life.
Coordinated by Mr. William Murray, Mr. Alejandro Prieto, and Ms. Krista Maynard, Student Government Association. Sponsored by the Student Government Association and Office of Student Life

Thursday, 3/19
UNITED NATIONS PATHWAYS VIDEO CONFERENCE SERIES • GA, GP (RESERVATION ONLY)
Location and Time/TBD
This semester's Fairleigh Dickinson University United Nations Pathways Video Conference will feature UN Ambassador Club President Ahmad Kamal and Mr. Maher Nasser, director of the

Outreach Division, Department of Public Information in New York (DPI) as they discuss "UN Department of Public Information Partnerships with NGOs: Rationale and Global Impact."
Coordinated by Ms. Barbara Schaefer-Peleg, National Center for Educational Alliances, and Professor Andrew Rowan, National Center for Educational Alliances and Department of English

Tuesday, 3/20
MAKING A CAREER IN GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY • GE, GT (OCD)
Roscoe Brown Student Center, Room 211/11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Geospatial Technology is an emerging field of study, a national priority in the United States and many other countries, and a rapidly growing sector in an industry that faces an acute shortage of skilled labor. In this session Dr. Sunil Bhaskaran will describe key components of this technology, emphasize the need to introduce students at BCC to this technology and discuss various career options for BCC students. Geospatial technology includes the tools and techniques used in land surveying, remote sensing, cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), global navigation satellite systems (GPS, GLONASS, Galileo, Compass), photogrammetry, geography, and related forms of earth mapping. This 45-minute presentation will be followed by a Q&A session. The discussion will be relevant to all BCC students and staff who wish to explore this exciting technology and apply it to their disciplines.
Coordinated by Dr. Sunil Bhaskaran, Department of Physics & Technology

Thursday, 3/22
SGA'S 2ND ANNUAL DINNER FOR DIGNITY • TU (OCD)
Colston Hall, Lower Level/5-8 p.m.
The Student Government Association, the Inter-Organizational Council, and the Office of Student Life host this second annual dinner to honor campus and community champions of the LGBT community. This event will feature a surprise keynote speaker, leadership awards, and music.
Coordinated by Mr. Eric Sutton, Student Government Association, the Inter-Organizational Council, and the Office of Student Life

Thursday, 3/29
A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN • GW (OCD)
Roscoe Brown Student Center Playhouse/12-2 p.m.
BCC marks the end of Women's History Month with the induction of the 2012 members into the Women's Virtual Hall of Fame. Members of the Speech, Drama and Debate team will also be featured as they bring to life dramatic and enduring speeches by a dynamic group of women whose achievements have had long-lasting and widespread impact across the globe.
Coordinated by Professor Sarah Brady, Department of Communications; Dr. Kate Calkin, Department of History; Professor Janet Robertson, Department of English and the Writing Center; Professor Gloria Rodriguez, Department of Social Sciences; Dr. Tamar Rubenberg, Department of History; Dr. Maria Lazda, Department of History; Ms. Theresa Hammonds, Office of Career & Transfer; Ms. Chantelle Wright, Department of Student Development; Ms. Barbara Schaefer-Peleg, National Center for Educational Alliances; Professor Andrew Rowan, National Center for Educational Alliances and Department of English; and Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life.

Thursday, 3/29
INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOUR • IS
Loew Hall, Room 200/12-2 p.m.
Please join us the last Thursday of each month to make friends, get involved, and start the weekend. The coffee is free!
Coordinated by Ms. Martha Charles-Gleason, Advisor, International Student Services

BROWN-BAG DIALOGUES: TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING AT BCC • TU (OCD)
Location and Time/TBD
The Center for Tolerance and Understanding invites the College community to join us for informal brown-bag discussions that address issues of bias on the BCC campus.
Coordinated by the Center for Tolerance and Understanding Advisory Panel

APRIL

Wednesday, 4/4-4/30
INFINITY II: THE DREAMTIME (EXHIBIT) • IC, GW
Hall of Fame Gallery, Bliss Hall
Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., or by appointment
This month-long exhibit features New Jersey-based Korean artist So Yoon Lynn, who has spent parts of her life also in Kenya, Uganda and France. Her series of realistic acrylic on paper paintings of hair and braid patterns will be exhibited. Her interest in urban youth and identity have led her to paint this series of works focused on hair braids as worn by her multi-ethnic students in Paterson, New Jersey.
Coordinated by Professor Mary Jo Ben-Nun, Department of Art & Music

Wednesday, 4/18
OPENING RECEPTION • GW, IC
Hall of Fame Gallery, Bliss Hall/ 12-2 p.m.
INFINITY II: THE DREAMTIME (EXHIBIT)

Thursday, 4/5
GLOBAL FILM SERIES: A JIHAD FOR LOVE (2008) • TU (OCD)
Schwendler Auditorium/12-2 p.m.
A FILM BY PARVEZ SHARMA (81 MINUTES)
Fourteen centuries after the revelation of the holy Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad, Islam today is the world's second largest and fastest growing religion. Muslim gay filmmaker Parvez Sharma travels the many worlds of this dynamic faith, discovering the stories of its most unlikely storytellers: lesbian and gay Muslims. Winner of the GLAAD Media Award in 2009, *A Jihad for Love* was filmed in 12 countries and 9 languages and comes from the heart of Islam. Looking beyond a hostile and war-torn present, it reclaims the Islamic concept of a greater Jihad, whose true meaning is akin to 'an inner struggle' or 'to strive in the path of God'.
Moderated by Dr. Robert Maryks and guest faculty. The series is coordinated by Dr. Robert Maryks, Department of History

Thursday, 4/5
SGA "GO GREEN" WORKSHOP • SE (OCD)
Roscoe C. Brown Student Center, Room 310/2-4 p.m.
BCC's Student Government Association educates the student body about how to practice sustainability on campus and in everyday life.
Coordinated by Mr. William Murray, Mr. Alejandro Prieto, and Ms. Krista Maynard, Student Government Association. Sponsored by the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Life.

Thursday, 4/12
WORKSHOP: OPT & CPT WORK AUTHORIZATION • IS
Loew Hall, Room 200/12-2 p.m.
This workshop is geared towards International Students on F-1 Status who are interested in applying for work authorization from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This workshop provides information about requirements and eligibility to the students and help to prepare them for the application process.
Coordinated by Ms. Martha Charles-Gleason, Advisor, International Student Services.

Thursday, 4/15
OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET • GA, GH (OCD)
Roscoe C. Brown Student Center, Room 211/12-2 p.m.
The Student Government Association hosts the inaugural Oxfam Hunger Banquet to raise awareness about the inequalities of food distribution in our world. Students will learn how they can take a leadership role in addressing poverty and inequality locally and globally.
Coordinated by Ms. Patricia Gimballa, Student Government Association, and the Office of Student Life

Thursday, 4/19
CUNY DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH FILM: THE RIVER WARD • TU (OCD)
Schwendler Auditorium/12-2 p.m.
A FILM BY BRIAN WICKMAN
Join the Office of Disability Services, the Office of Student Life, and student leaders for *The River Ward*, an engaging film that chronicles four individuals as they attend First Descents, a free week-long kayaking camp for young adults with cancer (ages 18-39).
Coordinated by Ms. Patricia Fleming, Office of Disability Services, Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life, and student club leaders.

Monday, 4/23
CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROGRAM • GA (OCD)
The Children's Center/10 a.m.-11 a.m.
BCC's Early Childhood Center and the Office of Student Life provide a forum for children in the Center to learn about world culture and for many of them to receive books to read at home with their BCC student parents. Titles with global themes in children's literature will be chosen each month for this unique program.
Coordinated by Ms. Jitinder Walia, Child Care Center, and Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life

Tuesday, 4/24
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION • SE, GA (OCD)
Meister Hall Lobby/All day
Find out how to take a leadership role in campus and community sustainability efforts. Explore internship and job opportunities available now and in the future in the Green Economy. This event will feature New York City-based organizations and environmental and sustainability leaders.
Coordinated by Ms. Jameelah Muhammad, Center for Sustainable Energy; Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life; Professor Charmaine Along, Department of Health, Physical Education and Wellness; and Dr. Claudio Mazzatorta, Department of Biology and Medical Lab Technology, and the Garden Club.

Thursday, 4/26
EARTH DAY FESTIVAL • SE, GA (OCD)
Various locations and times throughout the day
Guest speakers offer views about local and global environmental issues. Demonstrations and training will be offered on how to incorporate practical, energy-saving practices into everyday life.
Coordinated by Ms. Jameelah Muhammad, Center for Sustainable Energy; Dr. Farnush Samdi, Department of Chemistry & Chemical Technology; Professor Charmaine Along, Department of Health, Physical Education & Wellness; Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life; Dr. Luis Monerregui, Department of Physics & Technology; and Dr. Claudio Mazzatorta, Department of Biology & Medical Lab Technology, and the Garden Club.

Thursday, 4/26
CLIMATE CHANGE: ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 1992 RIO EARTH SUMMIT • SE (OCD)
Roscoe C. Brown Student Center, Room 211/10 a.m.-12 p.m.
This program will give a brief history of climate change and then explore the impact of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) worldwide from Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 to the last conference in Durban, South Africa, in 2011.
Coordinated by Dr. Claudio Mazzatorta, Department of Biology & Medical Laboratory Technology

Thursday, 4/26
INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOUR • IS (OCD)
Loew Hall, Room 200/12-2 p.m.
Please join us the last Thursday of each month to make friends, get involved, and start the weekend. The coffee is free!
Coordinated by Ms. Martha Charles-Gleason, Advisor, International Student Services

TBD
BROWN-BAG DIALOGUES: TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING AT BCC • TU (OCD)
Location and Time/TBD
The Center for Tolerance and Understanding invites the College community to join us for informal brown-bag discussions that address issues of bias on the BCC campus.
Coordinated by the Center for Tolerance and Understanding Advisory Panel

MAY

Tuesday, 5/1
PANEL DISCUSSION: GENDER, FAITH & IDENTITY • GA, TU (OCD)
Roscoe Brown Student Center Playhouse/12-2 p.m.
MULTI-CULTURAL WEEK EVENT
A panel of New York City experts, BCC faculty, and students will explore the intersection between gender, faith, and identity. Our multiple identities, often considered to be separate entities, are constantly shaping who we are as individuals. Participants will have the opportunity to explore their own identities and consider how their multiple identities shape their lives, especially as they relate to gender and faith.
Coordinated by the Office of Student Life

Tuesday, 5/1
CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROGRAM • GA (OCD)
The Children's Center/10-11 a.m.
Join the Office of Disability Services, the Office of Student Life, and student leaders for *The River Ward*, an engaging film that chronicles four individuals as they attend First Descents, a free week-long kayaking camp for young adults with cancer (ages 18-39).
Coordinated by Ms. Jitinder Walia, Child Care Center, and Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life

Tuesday, 5/1
UNITED NATIONAL PATHWAYS AMBASSADOR FORUM • GA (OCD)
Location and Time/TBD
BCC students will attend a special forum on the Teaneck Metro campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University. UN Ambassador Club President Ahmad Kamal hosts the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations in a discussion on matters of global importance.
Coordinated by Barbara Schaefer-Peleg, National Center for Educational Alliances, and Professor Andrew Rowan, National Center for Educational Alliances and Department of English

Wednesday, 5/2
DISCUSSION: A DIALOGUE TO FOSTER CAMPUS TOLERANCE & UNDERSTANDING • TU (OCD)
Roscoe Brown Student Center, Room 211/10 a.m.-2 p.m.
MULTI-CULTURAL WEEK EVENT
BCC students lead a discussion about intercultural competence. The program will focus on what students and other members of the campus community can do to foster tolerance and understanding on campus. This event will feature guest speakers from campus and the community.
Coordinated by the Office of Student Life, the Student Government Association, and the Inter-Organizational Council

Thursday, 5/3
BCC DANCE WORKSHOP CONCERTS • IC (OCD)
• Roscoe C. Brown Playhouse & Colston Hall, Lower Level Dance Workshop Performance, 12-1 p.m.
• African Students' Association Campus Parade, 1-2 p.m.
• Student Life & Student Government – BBQ & Global Music Concert 2-4 p.m.
• Dance Workshop Performance, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

BCC Dance Workshop, the African Students' Association, and the Office of Student Life team up for an exciting Multicultural Week program that features dances from around the world, an African parade, BBQ, and a global music fest. We will finish with a campus-wide parade. The performance will be repeated in the evening, followed by a concert in collaboration with the Office of Student Life.
Coordinated by Dr. Sue Moss, Department of Health, Physical Education and Wellness; Ms. Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life; and Mr. Eugene Adams, Collaborative Programs.

Thursday, 5/3
GLOBAL FILM SERIES: GUN HILL ROAD (2011) • TU (OCD)
Schwendler Auditorium/12-2 p.m.
A FILM BY BRIAN WICKMAN
An ex-con returns home to the Bronx after three year in prison to discover his wife estranged and his teenage son exploring a sexual transformation that will put the fragile bonds of their family to the test. Told with sensitivity, gentle humor, and a deep understanding of the environment that shapes its people, it is the story of a young man exploring his sexuality in an intolerant and judgmental world and his exploration's impact on his relationship with his parents and himself. This first feature film by writer/director Rashaad Ernesto Green was a finalist for the esteemed Jury Award at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. A reception will follow the screening and discussion.
Moderated by Dr. Robert Maryks and director Rashaad Ernesto Green. The series is coordinated by Dr. Robert Maryks, Department of History.

TBD
BROWN-BAG DIALOGUES: TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING AT BCC • TU (OCD)
Location and Time/TBD
A FILM BY BRIAN WICKMAN
The Center for Tolerance and Understanding invites the College community to join us for informal brown-bag discussions that address issues of bias on the BCC campus.
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Themes

- GA Global Awareness
- GP Global Politics
- GW Global Women
- GE Globalization and the Economy
- GH Global Health
- GT Global Technology
- IC International Culture
- IS International Students
- SE Sustainability and the Environment
- TU Tolerance and Understanding